

OBITUARY

DR R. R. GARRAN



DR RICHARD GARRAN, a life member of the Royal Society of Victoria, died on 8 April 1991, aged 88 years.

Dick, a son of Sir Robert Garran, took his first degree in science at Trinity College, Melbourne University where, apart from his academic pursuits, he distinguished himself by his rowing

proWess. From Melbourne he crossed to Imperial College, London to carry out his postgraduate research. From there, he joined what became the Alkali Division of ICI at Winnington, England, in a select group who were regarded then as the scientific aristocrats of the company.

In the early 1930s, Dick was involved in plans to establish alkali manufacture in Australia, and just before World War 2 came to Osborne in South Australia to take charge of what became a successful operation. There he earned quite a reputation for his hard work and his ability to work remarkably long hours without intermission. He spent his last two or three years with ICI at head office, Melbourne, in charge of personnel.

Dick joined the Royal Society of Victoria in 1954, becoming a member of Council in 1957, and was President in 1961-62. From 1969 to 1983 he acted as Honorary Executive Officer for the Society. In recognition of his services to the Society he was made a Life Member in 1983.

At first encounter, Dick seemed a rather quiet, reserved man. On better acquaintance, he proved to be a very warm-hearted person, a cultured, gentle man in the very highest sense, with a delightful dry sense of humour. He will be missed very much by his friends.

J. D. M.